Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The atmospheric condition of Trivandrum does not contribute to the preservation of books in good condition in open shelves. It has been found that books, on account of moist atmosphere, get spoild very soon, and hence it was decided to keep them in closed shelves.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether there was any change in the local atmosphere that necessitated the change to the closed shelf system?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: There is no change, but the atmospheric condition is not suitable for the preservation of books in open shelves.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether Government are aware that much valuable time is lost by those who resort to the Public Library in the selection of books by adopting the close shelf system?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Government are not aware.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the possible expenditure that the Government had to incur as a result of pilfering of books?

Rao Bahadur Rajyasevanirata Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I have not got the exact figures now, but I know that a large number of books were lost on account of pilfering.

Complaints againt the Panachamood market contractor.

81. * **Mr. K. R. Elankath**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have received complaints, through the authorities in the Revenue Department, from the public who frequent the Panachamood Market about the irregular and high-handed actions of the market contractor;

(*b*) the nature of the complaints levelled against the contractor;

(*c*) whether any enquiry was made on the complaints; and

(*d*) if so, the result of the enquiry?

Mr. K. Parameswara Panickar: (*a*) Yes. Two petitions were received by the Division Peishkar, Trivandrum, on 7-3-1113 and 17-4-1113.

(*b*) The complaints related to the collection of tolls in excess of the rates allowed by the rules.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) It was found that the petitions were the result of ill-will of the previous contractor. However, the Tahsildar has been directed to take steps to guard against such malpractices on the part of the contractor.

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Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know whether the evidence of the contractor was obtained?

Mr. K. Paramesvara Panickar: His evidence was recorded and that was also considered.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know whether the Tahsildar has made an enquiry to be convinced that the complaints were groundless?

Mr. K. Paramesvara Panickar: He was convinced that the complaints were frivolous.

Issue of grant memos.

82. *Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when grant memos to primary schools are generally issued; and

(*b*) when they ought to be issued; and

(*c*) whether, owing to this change in the system from 1109, any improvement in the working of the schools has been noticed?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: (*Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) Grant memos to primary schools are generally issued on receipt of sanction for the budget estimate for the year.

(*b*) Grant memos ought to be issued soon after the budget allotment is made.

(*c*) Yes.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: May I know when the Director gets the sanction for the budget estimates?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: At the end of Kanni.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: May I know why the grant memos are issued only two months hence, in Vrischikam?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: Grant memos are issued during the months of Thulam and Vrischikam.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Is it not a hardship to the poor primary school teachers?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: I admit there is some hardship. But there will be no hardship if the managements were more alive to their duties and responsibilities.

Adverse effect of the Fee Concession Rules.

83. *Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla*: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have received petitions from backward Christian communities in regard to the adverse effect of the new Fee Concession Rules on the education of their pupils, and if, so, whether any action has been taken on them?

Mr. C. V. Chandrasekharan: Yes. Final orders have been passed after considering these petitions.

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